

YUFOS

YORKSHIRE UFO SOCIETY

PROJECT RED BOOK

(Vol.4 #5, November 2000)



Earthlings we are sorry about your cover but after we abducted your illusstrater, we dropped him off in America by mistake....but he is unharmed and will be returned When he puts the women down for 5 mins

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FREDERICK VALENTICH UPDATE

UFOs AROUND THE WORLD

And much more...

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Subscriptions:

£12:00 - 12 issues (1 year)

£7:00 - 6 issues (6 months)

sample issue - £1:50

Project Red Book is published each month by the Yorkshire UFO Society.

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To re-print articles in this magazine please enquire at the above address- that means me, Dave. I'm sure to say "yes", but it is nice to ask first...and remember to give us a reference now, y'hear?

The articles and views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor, YUFOS members or hell, anyone for that matter.

"Look, look, who's in here? No one! And then in here, there's a little guy..."

AN INTERVIEW WITH GLORIA DIXON

Gloria Heather Dixon became interested in the UFO subject in 1970 whilst living in the United States. Her father resided in the States as an aeronautical engineer working as a parachute specialist in the Space programme during the sixties. Her parents were divorced and a holiday to visit him resulted in a move to the States where she lived in Wilmington, Delaware for twelve years.

She read *Project Blue Book*, the United States Air Force official investigations into UFOs, and during the first part of the seventies heard a couple of unusual stories, which reinforced her interest further. She worked as a PA for an American businessman, who was politically active within the Republican party during the Nixon era and who went on to become a Congressman for Delaware in the seventies.

Her stepfather was an officer in the RAF and they travelled to many parts of the world and Gloria developed an interest in aviation.

She joined the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and the Independent UFO Network (IUN) in 1990 and began to attend UFO Conferences, where she admits to "hearing some of the strangest conversations I had ever heard..."

She is now the national investigations co-ordinator for BUFORA, a valued member of the UFO Investigation Network, and also finds the time to produce a bi-monthly magazine entitled *Strange Daze*.

DAVE BAKER: Gloria, I can name a couple of dozen male ufologists off the top of my head, but I can only think of a handful of female researchers. Why do you think that there are more men into this subject than women?

GLORIA DIXON: This is an intriguing question and there is no doubt that the world of ufology is indeed male dominated. The ratio of men in comparison to women is quite dramatic and I have often wondered about this myself, being in the minority so to speak! It is also interesting that sighting reports of unusual aerial phenomena appear to be reported by more men than women, but when you enter into the domain of high strangeness cases such as claims of alien abduction and close encounter events, there are a higher percentage of women than men who report these unusual experiences.

I think that because men have a particular fascination with Space, aviation and astronomy, this would play an important role in their interest in the idea of UFOs and the possibility of nuts and bolts machines in our skies that may not have a rational explanation. The idea of potential visitors from Space holds an enormous fascination for them. This would also have been triggered by many past and present science fiction dramas played out in

old comics, books, television and films, which would also have held a huge interest for the male population leading into the modern Space Age and today's incredible military technology that we now see in our skies. In my view this would have certainly generated an excitement and fascination with Space and the capabilities of technology and whether there could be more going on out there than could be imagined.

I think also that the idea of women being at the frontiers of scientific research into these areas has not been as visible as it is now and I feel that more women are now realising that they can make contributions to UFO research. Because of this and the access to this subject via the Internet, I hope that there will be more and more women becoming involved in the UFO subject. I think we are starting to see that now and that there is an increase in women's desire to be involved in this field of study. I certainly talk with more women now, who express a real wish to become involved in ufology on all levels.

Do you think that there is anything a female researcher can bring to a case that a man cannot?

Yes, there are things that a woman can bring to a case study that would definitely enhance and

give an added dimension to research into many cases. A female researcher's viewpoint is specifically essential in the area of more exotic claims of close encounter experiences. Women in the main tend to be far more intuitive than men and therefore their perception of a complex case may be viewed rather differently from the logic and pragmatism of their male counterpart. A woman can sometimes pick up on the more subtle problems behind an extraordinary claim.

For example where a witness, who has reported a troubling or strange incident hides emotive or sensitive issues that they feel are not connected to their experience. This is extremely important in the analysis of a case that may appear to be mysterious, but sometimes there are actually independent problems related to the background and personality of the witness, which have a real bearing on their interpretation of the experience. This why it is crucial, when possible, that a male and female investigator follow up a high strangeness case together in order to get very different viewpoints about the person or persons involved in these cases.

Bearing the above in mind, what was it that attracted you to the subject of UFOs and paranormal phenomena?

Mysteries have always fascinated me from an early age, particularly the paranormal field of study in relation to those other worlds that we inhabit from time to time, imaginal or otherwise. I am particularly interested in reports of near-death experiences and claims of after-death communication and the unexplored potential of the human consciousness. Are the brain/mind one and the same or is there something more complex going on? Scientific disciplines seem to be somewhat divided and unclear on this. I guess I am entranced by the idea of who we are and why we are here and the subjective way in which we interpret the world around us. I was an avid reader as a child and was totally fascinated with all things strange.

In adulthood mystery continued to captivate me, those possible elusive connections with other worlds, near-death experiences, claims of apparitions, visionary experiences etc. I have had some experiences that I have been unable to explain, although this does not mean that they cannot be explained. I just have not found an explanation yet. Above all there is a rich tapestry of remarkable human experiences

that have been relayed to me from within my family and from friends and colleagues from all over the world.

With regard to my interest in the UFO subject, this started its initial stages in the early seventies during the time I was living in the States. This was triggered somewhat because my father resided in the States working as an aeronautical engineer and parachute specialist in America's Space Programme during the sixties. I also read Project Blue Book on the United States Air Force official investigations into UFOs, and during the first part of the seventies heard a couple of unusual stories, which reinforced my interest further. During that time of course America was held spellbound by the idea of the exploration of Space particularly after Neil Armstrong's first steps on the moon in 1969. It was a very exciting time.

My real journey into the mad world of ufology came in 1990. I became a member of the British UFO Research Association (BUFORA) and the IUN (Independent UFO Network) in 1990 and began to attend UFO Conferences. I have to admit to hearing some of the strangest conversations I had ever heard in 1991 while attending a joint BUFORA/IUN Conference held in Sheffield and wondered if this was just a one-off or was everything always as bizarre as this. I was soon to find out that it was and I was captivated for many years by the whole subject and people involved.

Can you remember the first case you really got your teeth into?

I can remember a few actually going back to the early nineties. One of the first sent to me by Jenny Randles for follow up turned out to be a laser light display, which was observed by many people on the north east coast within a good twenty mile radius of the show. It was an interesting lesson in people's perceptions and beliefs. There were several early on with rather mundane explanations, but a couple that stand out involved claims of close encounter events.

The first high strangeness case I attended with another investigator occurred in Redcar, Cleveland. It involved some very strange experiences in the form of some kind of shared dreamlike experience involving a young couple. This was reported and followed up many years after the alleged incident, but nevertheless I found it rather curious, as the

couple concerned were just an ordinary young couple, who had no idea what had happened to them. They both remembered a very similar experience where they claimed to have seen an object and entities, which they observed in their back garden during the night. The wife claimed that her husband actually physically disappeared and described entities in their home *with skin not like ours*.

They were woken in the early hours of the morning with their one year old daughter crying in a way that was unusual and rushed into her bedroom, where they then observed this object in their back garden in the area where the husband was building a shed. After following him out of their daughter's bedroom, the wife claims her husband had physically disappeared and at the same time she observed two small beings on the stairs.

They woke up the following morning with their daughter between them in the bed and it was only after going downstairs for breakfast that they looked out of the window into their back garden and recalled the experience of the night before. This case was actually documented in *Without Consent* by Philip Mantle. The husband was very ill about two months after this with a rare blood condition and was in hospital for about three months

With this case of course there were problems, not least of which were their memories of that night reported to BUFORA so many years after the incident and with an increased awareness of the UFO subject as it was evolving via the media, books and conferences. I honestly don't know what these experiences were, but I recall feeling that the lady concerned was still very disturbed by whatever they perceived had occurred and she was adamant in her recollection of the entities' skin as not being like ours.

Of course anything is possible including the idea that this was a hoax perpetrated by a young couple wishing to gain some kind of attention or money. However, in my opinion, this was unlikely, as they wished their names to remain completely confidential and therefore were hardly going to gain anything financially.

Who were your initial heroes in the subject, and has your opinion of their work changed over the years?

There are quite a few people, who have had quite an impact on how my thinking and understanding have evolved with regard to the subject. During the late eighties I started to read books on UFOs, good and bad. I read many of Jenny Randles' books in addition to Timothy Good's best-selling book *Above Top Secret*. Jacques Vallee's books had a tremendous influence on me, as did Jenny's books. A real classic was John Keel's UFOs *Operation Trojan Horse* and John Spencer's books *Perspectives* and *Gift of the Gods* also contributed to giving me a deeper insight into the subject. *Phantoms of the Sky* by Dave Clarke and Andy Roberts provided a real look at the fundamental issues surrounding the whole UFO subject and so my views and ideas began to change and I gained some rational thought on the subject.

In the early days I was particularly fortunate to join the IUN and meet the original IUN founders, Philip Mantle, Rod Howarth, Andy Roberts and Stuart Smith, who probably all exerted a real direction on how I was to come to eventually understand this subject. The work of Paul Devereux has also influenced my thinking particularly his excellent *Otherworld Reality Conference* held in London last year and Judy Jaafar of BUFORA has also had an impact on my understanding of remarkable human experiences.

My opinion of their work has not changed particularly. I think all of the above writers and researchers have been and still are dedicated and major contributors to our comprehensive understanding of what this subject is really about, although I may not share some of their views at times.

My opinion of the work of some of the American researchers has changed quite dramatically over the years though, particularly with regard to an extra-terrestrial hypothesis, as I see no substantial evidence for this, at least none that can be proven and therefore I have a real problem with the alleged cases of physical evidence, implants and marks proving in a definitive way that we are being visited and abducted by an alien presence.

However, above and beyond the fact that there will always be some researchers, who are involved in this area for less than altruistic reasons and often for their own personal gain, I still feel that even among those with whom I acutely disagree on some issues, they are still dedicated researchers, whom I respect and who

have devoted much of their lives at personal financial cost, to exploring those mysteries that lie on the edge of our knowledge, be it UFOs or paranormal phenomena.

You have told me that your father lived in the States as an aeronautical engineer, working as a parachute specialist in the Space programme during the sixties. You also said that your step-father, who actually raised you was an officer in the RAF...with this kind of access to "those who would be in the know", have either of them given you any suggestion that the military or NASA knows about UFOs and are actively up covering the truth?

I'm afraid not. My father, John, was very concerned with nuts and bolts aviation and I remember arriving in New York a few days after the historic flight of Apollo 11 when Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin walked on the Moon and his breathtaking excitement at this accomplishment. He was a real explorer of life though and I have no doubt he would have been open to the possibility of UFOs.

With regard to my stepfather, Ron, it certainly does not follow that he would be 'in the know' about the truth of UFOs. Being in the military does not mean that you have access to top-secret information on specific issues that are not aligned to your job description. In the late 60s, my father was stationed in Cyprus and I worked in a civilian clerical capacity for the counter intelligence of the Army, which was secret detachment responsible for the Near East security forces. Although it was a classified position in that I dealt with information classified as 'Secret', this did not mean that I had access to anything other than what were relevant reports on activity which could affect the security of the Near East British bases. Certainly when I became involved in UFO research my father, Ron was very interested in some of stories and programmes that were emerging, although very sceptical in his views.

You are a principal member of UFOIN. How successful do you think the group has been in reaching its goals so far?

I think the group has been extremely successful in its achievements so far with a great deal of work being accomplished by many list members in a diverse area of UFO study and research. One of the reasons for

this, in my opinion, is because of the real dedication and skills of list members reaching ever-wider parameters of what UFO research really means. Visits to the Public Records Office at Kew by Dave Clarke, Andy Roberts and Paul Fuller with the release of the 1967 UFO documents has and will provide an enormous insight into the problems surrounding well documented cases from the sixties. This will no doubt lead to a better understanding of the so-called classic 'UFO' cases and therefore give us a more comprehensive overview of the major problems with investigation, perception, beliefs and outright hoaxes. It has been very rewarding to see some of the researchers, who have expressed a desire to join the list in addition to those that have joined UFOIN. This has also led to the Rendlesham Forest incidents being debated at length by researchers, who are very au fait with these events.

You are also national investigations co-ordinator for BUFORA. BUFORA has received a pretty bad press from a number of ufologists, not least friends of yours such as Andy Roberts (everywhere, including PRB!) and Dave Clarke. Do you think these criticisms are justified?

Andy is just kidding about BUFORA you know!! I believe that criticisms of many organisations both within and outside the field of ufology are justified at times. It is crucial that there is criticism and debate, as long as it is constructive but I feel, very strongly, that criticism of BUFORA has been very unjustified at times, particularly where few of the facts have been known or understood properly by our critics. Therefore we have been judged on rumour and speculation and these rumours have taken on a life of their own, which has resulted in extremely bad press for BUFORA at times. The fact is that there are probably other UFO groups that would deserve these criticisms far more than BUFORA, but let's face it BUFORA is a national organisation spanning over forty years and has come under attack before and over many years.

It has also to be remembered that organisations and groups like BUFORA are voluntary and predominantly severely under-funded. BUFORA is run on a day to day administration by a limited number of people, who do a great deal of work on behalf of the association for

their members and for the general public, who report sightings and send in photographs and video footage. They also print the *BUFORA Bulletin* six times a year for their members, with an excellent web-site (www.bufora.org.uk) in addition to running London based lectures on the first Monday of every month from September to June. There is an active investigations team known as the BUFORA NIC (National Investigations Committee) and also a research team.

There has been vociferous criticism towards BUFORA from a few researchers and at times this has been very personal indeed particularly with the use of the internet and email where unfounded attacks about BUFORA and anyone else for that matter can be out there for the masses to see at click of the 'send' button. I do not agree with this, but unfortunately in this subject it seems to be particularly prevalent. What is interesting in all of this is that BUFORA is still alive and kicking and certainly still here after forty plus years, so I wonder what that tells us all? BUFORA as a UFO organisation is listed everywhere from directories to books, magazines and web-site links on a worldwide basis, and I have no doubt will continue in this vein despite their critics.

How come you have hung on in there while others have left in droves? Do you think that BUFORA can pull itself out of the mire and become the bastion of British ufology that it once was?

To be honest I do not believe that BUFORA has to pull itself out of anything despite problems that have occurred in the past. Are there any voluntary organisations without some problems at times? It is certainly still one of the bastions of British Ufolgy in the modern era of UFO understanding and I have no doubt will continue to be so. Obviously there can be problems as I referred to above, but there are many in the BUFORA membership including the NIC, who are a credit to this subject and I respect, value and learn from all of their contributions, the same way I do from UFOIN and the many other individual researchers and members of other organisations with whom BUFORA shares ideas and information across the world.

Unlike many ufologists from around the world, you do often not contribute to discussion forums such as UFO-Updates.

Are you just a lurker, or do you try to avoid this kind of bickering and back-stabbing?

I do not subscribe to Updates, although on occasion I log on and have a look at the archives to see if there were any worthwhile debates. I admit to absolutely hating the politics...I call them 'plototics'; no such word of course, but I think it describes the hardened back-stabbing that goes on, generating into personal attacks occasionally that I consider vile to the extreme. There is absolutely no excuse for this kind of unprofessional approach at all in my view and it adds nothing whatsoever to our knowledge of UFO study. Also I find that some debates are endless at times and going nowhere. It just seems that certain debates go on and on, but never actually get anywhere towards a viable conclusion and in some cases no amount of debate or evidence will change a researcher's belief in his own evaluations of a case. Besides anything else nasty politics are a time wasting exercise and I don't have that kind of time.

Many ufologists claim that they can solve perhaps ninety-five percent or more of the reports they receive. Are there any UFO cases in your files which remain unsolved and have genuinely mysterious elements?

I am not too sure I agree with the ninety-five per cent of reports being explained. There are problems here, not least of which is sometimes the amount of time before they are reported, in some instances going back years and years. This creates enormous difficulties for the investigators with all kinds of problems in trying to resolve a simple sighting or a more complex case. This includes memory problems, belief systems and pure wishful thinking on the part of the observer or experiencer. I think probably with enough resources and information in addition to sightings being reported quickly enough, that we may well be able to solve ninety-five percent or more cases, but this just does not happen. Furthermore, solving a case is also dependent upon the specific investigators handling the case, as they come with heavy baggage on occasion, with their own ideas and beliefs as to what the witness has seen or experienced and there is no doubt as we have seen in BUFORA and UFOIN, that this directly affects the evaluation of the reports.

Yes, I do have cases that remain unexplained which certainly have some puzzling elements to them. The Windwhistle Hill case (See *Strange Daze* issue 20) is very odd indeed. This was triggered by the sighting of an unusual orange light by a family travelling on the A30 between Yeovil and Chard. They describe some very mysterious experiences including memories of their car coming to a complete standstill and recollections of family members disappearing from the car, and observation of a brilliant light within the car, strange figures and their great fear.

This was followed by a further experience about a week later very close to the first incident where two figures were observed on the grass verge, one figure described as exceedingly tall and another lying on the grass verge. The tall figure stepped out into centre of the road and had one foot on the grass verge and the other over the centre of the road, all in one step! The family felt this was extremely odd and instead of investigating as to whether someone had been hurt they swung around the figure into the grass verge on the other side of the road and continued their journey. They never heard of any incident from the area and felt extremely puzzled by this.

There is also great deal of folklore surrounding this area, highwaymen, buried treasure and bodies buried in the area in addition to folklore tales about a witch being buried under Windwhistle Hill. There are also many other stories of unusual incidents that have occurred here. I went to the area in August and it was interesting to see the area where the car stop had occurred. There are a host of pylons in the area and a large radio mast behind the Windwhistle Inn. After several years of research by past BUFORA investigators, we have not been able to explain these events. Of course that does not necessarily mean that there is not an explanation and certainly it could be that electromagnetic field may have some bearing on this case.

Another case from Scotland involves a professional couple, who underwent an extraordinary shared dreamlike experience, where the husband felt his wife was actually taken from the bed by something or someone. At the same time he observed a figure by the bed, who seemed to have some kind of implement which was being put into his left arm. There are some differences in his wife's account but the essence of this experience was very similar indeed.

They awoke in the morning and wrote down their recollections of these experiences. They appeared to be a very articulate couple, who wondered if there was any substance to this. Obviously this appears on the surface to have been some kind of shared dream experience and the trigger for their report to BUFORA was because they watched part of a documentary, which involved Garry Woods' account of the A70 case. This of course could have certainly contaminated their account of this odd experience, but they certainly did not detail this occurrence in terms of alien abduction.

Certainly the BUFORA investigator who looked into this found them to be people, who wanted an explanation and felt they would certainly have been prepared to accept a reasonable assessment of their experience.

Another rather baffling case is from Alnmouth, Northumberland and goes back to 1963, around 3.30am when a father and daughter were returning from a family occasion in Leicester and were travelling on the Shilbottle Road, about ten minutes from Alnmouth, where they lived. They became aware of a brilliant, huge light directly above them and they estimate no more than thirty feet in height. There was no sound and as they were in a slight dip they stopped their car and turned off the engine and held on to each other, as they felt very frightened on this lonely road in the darkness. The daughter told me that they had a powerful sensation that they were being observed and the light stayed above the car for about a minute, before it moved at tremendous speed heading towards the North Sea coast. It was gone within a couple of seconds.

Upon returning home, the journey appeared to have taken them double the time it should have done. The following day they contacted RAF Bulmer to see if they could come up with an explanation for their sighting, but they were informed that nothing military has been responsible. They also checked with the farmhouse, which was very close to where they had observed the light, but no one there had heard or seen anything.

The father is dead now, but his daughter told me that they could not explain what they saw. According to local villagers her father had talked about this sighting for many years and was adamant that there was no rational explanation for what they had seen. Here of course we have the problem again of a report received many years on and therefore with

little hope of following up with a reasonable investigation.

It is very evident that many of the mysterious cases do not appear to be under the remit of a UFO case, but fall into the category of paranormal phenomena. Also in realms of unexplained cases are two with which I was involved where unusual balls of light were observed that appeared to have some effects upon the witness and their car. These occurred in Brampton, Cumbria and Surrey. I have never been unable to come up with an explanation for either one. The one from Surrey is quite extraordinary if the witness was not perpetrating a hoax of some kind, always an option of course. This would be too lengthy to go into here and at the risk of taking up space in an entire issue of PRB, I think I had better stop right here.

What is your opinion on so-called alien abductions?

First of all I believe that many people undergo extraordinary experiences at times in their lives, or at least experiences that they cannot define or possibly do not even have the language or the capacity to explain. We live in an age with amazing potential and where anything seems to be possible due to the incredible technology that we have. More and more information is accessible to many more people; therefore they are asking many more questions because of the information they access from the Internet, where UFO and paranormal sites are in abundance.

In addition to this are many magazines, books and television shows dealing with the subject and spreading the mythology to literally millions of people adding to the persuasive imagery of the reality of alien abductions. Furthermore, we live in a scary age of artificial intelligence development, medical technology and futuristic weaponry and aircraft that we possibly have yet to imagine. I believe it is no wonder that we look to those other worlds in order to explain this one and to possibly feel that we have elusive connections to something else out there that could either save us from ourselves or even give more problems than we already have.

The idea that there are some people, who believe they have been abducted by aliens, has been downloaded into our consciousness and we cannot get away from that. Whether this is happening in the physical world is another

question entirely and from my point of view, I see no evidence for this at all or at least no definitive proof that has ever been produced to give any credence to this idea at all.

Of course the problem with many of the cases is that regression hypnosis has been used as a method to recover information about these experiences and there are major problems with this very controversial method, together with the fact that memory retrieval even from yesterday can be less than accurate. The brain is very selective about what it feels we need to remember about various events on a daily basis, therefore the use of hypnosis will not enhance the memory from the point of view of an objective truth about the event.

Moreover, people who claim to undergo these unusual experiences need to explore and identify what is happening to them, but their perception of these sometimes disturbing experiences, reinforced by some investigators and exploited by the media, does not create any real understanding at all of what these experiences are and mean. In other words we have many more questions than answers and meanwhile these astonishing reports are increasing and there is little that is meaningful emerging either scientifically or philosophically. It maybe that these perplexing and profound experiences are a modern day interpretation of our innermost fears and apprehensions about scientific developments, as UFO and alien encounters take over from the traditional folklore and beliefs of ancient times,

However, all this aside, there is an increasing number of people including children, who contact UFO organisations about strange and disturbing experiences. We cannot just ignore this because it will not go away. There is no doubt at all that mental health issues are involved in some of these cases together with factors such as attention seeking, sheer hoaxes and misperception of confusing dreams etc.

But above and over all of this there remain reports from ordinary people, who undergo extraordinary events and look to UFO and paranormal organisations for answers because they perceive these experiences to be alien abduction encounters. Can you blame them? The representations of what aliens may look like are everywhere in science fiction, books, magazines and television notwithstanding all the promotional advertisements for various companies, which use the 'grey alien' face on our screens. In some ways it is deeply

depressing because at this stage we do not even know what came first, the chicken or the egg. Was the alien imagery that we use based on what people conjured up from these experiences before the grey alien ever invaded our consciousness or do people use this imagery because we have constructed it in this way ourselves. Who knows the answer to this question?

Of course this is where the dangers can lie, as these cases are normally outside of the remit of UFO investigators. However, it is my belief that we must continue to support and listen to the witness with great care and sensitivity but that support must also remain totally objective during our investigations and research. We can also sometimes point them in the direction of psychology to help understand what these experiences may mean. We can look for parallels to their experiences from other accounts, as well as looking at the life profile of that person where, as many researchers are aware, we find that many people reporting the close encounter experience have in fact experienced other unusual anomalies in their lives often of a paranormal nature.

The late Ken Phillips conducted work in this area on the Anamnesis Project together with the late Austrian psychologist Dr. Alex Keul. One of the conclusions of this project was that UFO experiencers are a reasonable cross-section of the population and not particularly fantasy prone individuals. There are certainly many patterns that emerge, but this still does not explain why people report that they have had an alien abduction experience. Cases of reported close encounters during altered states of consciousness prior to sleeping or awakening could be explained by 'sleep paralysis' and *hypnagogic states* during these altered states of consciousness prior to sleeping and awakening and other states of sleep such as false awakenings.

This question is of course a really loaded gun with the immense controversy surrounding it by the international UFO community, but it is obvious, to me anyway, that we need to examine consciousness in a far more complex way in order to begin to understand the human condition and the fragile area of these reports.

I think in a way Dr. Peter Fenwick's statement in his book *The Truth In the Light* gave an insight into these issues when he wrote

'science still does not understand the conversion of the objective world outside to the subjective world of meaning.

I believe that there is no doubt that abduction claims are part of a profound and important phenomenon, but mystical experiences have taken place since the dawn of mankind. It is just the interpretation that has changed to fit the models and images that we see in today's culture. I feel that many of these claims will tell us more and more about the human condition as our beliefs and mythology unfold.

Have you ever had any kind of UFO sighting or paranormal experience yourself?

I have never had a UFO sighting in that I have never seen anything in the sky that I couldn't explain or felt could remain inexplicable, but then I would say that wouldn't I? I have certainly had several paranormal experiences that I could not explain, although I have tried to look for explanations. These have covered several areas, such as precognitive dreams, apparitions, a very powerful sense of a presence on several occasions in my life, one of fairly recent time with an independent observation by my husband, who is real sceptic about all these areas. I have also experienced many powerful synchronicities, which I know can be experienced by many people.

Tell us a little about your publication "*Strange Daze*"...it's not purely a UFO publication is it?

No it isn't at all actually. The focus of '*Strange Daze*' is to explore extraordinary human experiences in all their forms from near death experiences, ghosts, and visionary experiences to claims of alien encounters and consciousness studies. In addition to this are articles at the cutting edge of science and aviation and interviews with the researchers into the world of UFOs and the paranormal. We hope also to act as a showcase for original thinking and articles from writers into these fields of study. I hope that writers will feel free to submit their articles to SD (email: HeatherD77@aol.com)

(This interview will be concluded in the next issue of Project Red Book...)

EXPLOITATIONS OF THE ALIEN KIND

By

Jonathan Slater (YUFOS)

I have this theory that commercial advertisers on television and in magazines are a part of this alien propaganda working along side governments to introduce into mainstream life images of extraterrestrial life in such a way that after all these years we have taken for granted the imagery on television as innocent fun and that if alien life forms do exist they must look like the ones out of the Mash adverts for instant potatoes.

But what if this is a cleaver and deliberate ploy to introduce through advertisements in the media away of portraying such imagery as to ready us for the day when we might come face to face with extraterrestrial life - after all, thanks to television 70 to 80% of the world must now know what the famous 'Grey' alien looks like thanks to television programmes such as *The X-Files*.

To ask the ordinary Joe in the street what he or she thinks about the possibility that life exists elsewhere, I dread to think what answers you would get, but every day of the week they are bombarded with images of aliens everywhere. Poor old E.T - there's me thinking at the end of the film he was going home back to his family but how mistaken was I. British Telecom must have made him a better offer because he is now living with a family somewhere in middle England where the father was in a band similar to Spandau ballet but only sounding better.

You only have to open the Autumn/Winter Argos catalogue and there you find an all terrain skateboard with the images of three aliens on the bottom side of it. Same with the Index catalogue, within seconds of opening it I had come across an alien lamp.

The worst offender has to be The Christmas catalogue which has a section called "Little Green Men" where you can buy such delights as Alien photo frames a personalised alien wall clock, personalised alien pyjama case, personalised alien towel, personalised alien savings bank, a bouncy inflatable space jumper (its like a bouncy Castle but its shaped like a UFO) and a alien voice changer mask.

Most of us have come across some kind of alien advertisement, recently I came across a

leaflet for the Alliance and Leicester left on a seat of a bus it showed on the front a UFO over what looks like the planet Mars and a alien hand holding a cash-card with the slogan "Is banking Alien to you" and "Beam up a cash-card this account for 11-17 year olds.

How many of us have bought the Alien pen, which lights up when you write with it, or have got the alien lighter with flashing lights and is also a musical key-ring. On television, extraterrestrial alien beings are used by advertisers to advertise anything from British Telecom to instant mash potatoes to motor cars.

In the June 2000 issue of *Project Red Book* Andrew Ashmore asked, "Where have all the UFO's gone" well one thing is defiantly true-not off television. In a typical week on television, you can find the following shows which have something connected to UFO's or aliens, *Star Trek*, *The X-Files*, *The Outer Limits*, *Red Dwarf*, *3rd Rock From The Sun*, *Roswell High*, this is just a small example of the programmes containing alien life forms.

The music makers such as David Bowie have used alien in the title of their songs or sung about aliens. One group called Foo Fighters brought out a song called Foo Fighters on Roswell records. So pop and rock groups are not immune to falling back on singing about aliens and UFO's most of us could easy think of a top ten alien or UFO chart

1. *Is there life on Mars?*-David Bowie
2. *Spaceman*-Babylon Zoo
3. *Man on the Moon*-Rem
4. *Keep it dark*-Genesis
5. *Silver Machine*-Hawkwind
6. *Starman*-David Bowie
7. *Calling occupants of interplanetary craft*-The Carpenters
8. *Space Oddity*-David Bowie
9. *After the goldrush*-Prelude
10. *Loving the alien*-David Bowie

When you open the glossy UFO Magazines from the shops, the first thing you will come across is countless advertisements for video's "Alien this alien that" or you must buy the latest Majestic 12 documents which have

appeared out of nowhere and you can only buy with us.

Or you must buy this new book because this has all the answers you will ever need until the author brings out another one sounding the same as the last one and of cause you must buy the Area 51 T-shirt and matching baseball cap or a poster of the front cover of the Roswell Daily Record Newspaper.

My sister, who lives in Lincoln, insists that whenever she comes to pay me a visit she brings with her something that is connected to alien's or UFO's, because having come clean to her that the second Tuesday of each month I don't just go to town for a drink with the lads but that I have joined a group called "The Yorkshire UFO Society" which some of you reading this might have heard off.

So now, after her visits I have a good supply of alien and UFO goodies such as books, videos, moneybox, Alien candle, Pens (yes the one that lights up when you write with it) and a couple of alien figures, I had more but my dog called Zena decided she would eat one (boldly gone where no alien toy figure has gone before).

So if you look on television or in magazines or advertising as a whole, there is a mighty lot of imagery going on connected to the subject of UFO's and aliens is this planned or just a cheap marketing gimmick. The truth is out there what ever the truth is.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Recently, in an ongoing bid to forge unions with UFO researchers and organisations throughout the world, YUFOS agreed to exchange information with our colleagues in Russia. The following small article was e-mailed to me. Victor Romanchenko obviously struggles with his English, but apart from correcting spelling mistakes I have left his wording as written, in order not to alter any meaning he way have intended.

SENSATION: THE RUSSIAN MILITARY DECLASSIFIED ITS UFO ARCHIVE!

Sunday, October 8, REN-TV, a Russian TV-channel, reported sensational information. There being broadcasting a programme "*Voyennaya taina*" ("Military

secret") on the REN-TV on Sundays (12:45-13:15 by Moscow time).

The programme's staff have received an exclusivematerial from the Ministry of Defefence of the Russia.

According to the TV-programme, the ministry have declassified a considerable part of military UFO archive. There have been showed recently secret lists of UFO observations on Russian military bases, recently secret orders of the Ministry's leadership to organize UFO surveillance and questioning military personnel that had observed UFOs, unique videotapes showing strange objects above the Russian military installations.

The programme showed the Ministry's leading expert for anomalous cosmic phenomena who told that there is a military centre where all UFO information is gathered. This centre is situated on the territory of a military base near the town of Mytishi, 19 km northeast of Moscow. It was founded in 1980.

According to his words, Russian military is gathering UFO information for the purpose of development of new kinds of weapons. The material showed by the programme is really the sensation. The Ministry of Defense of the Russia officially confess that it always cosidered UFOs seriously and gathered all possible information about them. And that is official claims!

I watched that programme and I am really impressed by what I have seen and heard. I expected such declassifying from the US government most probably but not from the Russian military. The secrecy in the USSR and Russia was always much stronger than in Western countries. But I hope that such the step of Russians is the beginning of uncovering UFO information kept by governments in the whole world. Probably there should be expected a like step from the government of the USA.

Victor Romanchenko,

The Chairman of Sumy City Youth Society
"The Contact Center for UFO Studies"

FREDERICK VALENTICH UPDATE

By Bill Chalker

12 Oct 2000

Just in the last day or so Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS) have generated a bit of publicity, based on investigations Richard Haines and Paul Norman (VUFORS) did a little while back. Dick Haines kindly sent me copy of a paper which was published in the *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, Vol.14, No.1, pp.19-33, 2000, which discusses new evidence & a new conclusion about this famous case. Paul Norman & Richard Haines discuss a witness, who came forward recently. His evidence seems to lend support to the scenario that Valentich inadvertently had turned 180 degrees during his "UFO encounter" and was heading back towards Victoria. This "reconstruction" came about because of the witnesses sighting, allegedly, of the Cessna, heading "down" with a green "object" above it, in near proximity to Apollo Bay.

Attempts are being made to encourage renewed interest in seeing if Valentich did in fact come down in the sea SE of Cape Marengo, just to the SE of Apollo Bay, between 3 to 12 miles offshore. It is an interesting paper. Well worth looking at, even though there seems to be problems with their analysis of the "new" data - a "force fit"?

I hope that for the sake of the Valentich family that some form of resolution comes.

UFO MYSTERY REVIVED.

(11 Oct 2000 Australia)

NEW evidence in Australia's most controversial UFO mystery has identified the likely spot a young pilot's plane may have crashed into Bass Strait.

Researchers have gained what they claim are fresh eyewitness accounts of an eerie green light which surrounded Frederick Valentich's ill-fated Cessna almost 22 years ago.

Valentich's dramatic disappearance off the Apollo Bay coast in Victoria's south-west on October 21, 1978, was recorded in radio calls he sent to Melbourne airport.

Speculation about his disappearance has ranged from freak weather conditions and pilot disorientation to UFO abduction.

Now, new witness accounts of the plane and its position have sparked calls from the Valentich family and investigators for an undersea search for the aircraft wreck.

The latest information comes from a man and his two nieces, believed to be the last to see the Cessna.

They support the description of a green light hovering over the plane.

"They saw both the lights of a small aircraft and a very large green light travelling directly above it," said Paul Norman, of the Victorian UFO Research Society, after interviewing the trio.

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FRESH LIGHT ON UFO RIDDLE.

(*The Mercury (Tasmania)* 11/10/2000, P8)

By Mark Dunn.

Sea search planned for vanished plane

NEW evidence in Australia's most controversial UFO mystery has identified the likely spot a young pilot's plane may have crashed into Bass Strait.

Researchers have gained what they claim are fresh eyewitness accounts of an eerie green light that surrounded Frederick Valentich's ill-fated Cessna almost 22 years ago.

Valentich's dramatic disappearance off the Apollo Bay coast in Victoria's south-west on October 21, 1978, was recorded in radio transmissions he sent from his rented Cessna 182L to Melbourne airport.

Speculation about Valentich's disappearance has ranged from freak weather conditions and pilot disorientation to UFO abduction.

Former NASA scientist Richard Haines, who studied the case, includes in his theory the possibility of a secret military weapons test.

Now, new witness accounts of the plane and its position have sparked calls from the Valentich family and investigators for an undersea search for the aircraft wreck.

Valentich's mother, Alberta, has for two decades maintained hope for some resolution of the mystery.

Mrs Valentich, who lost her husband Guido this year, yesterday issued her plea for assistance with the planned ocean search.

She said famed oceanographer Jacques Cousteau had before his death sought government permission several times to look for the aircraft but was refused.

Mrs Valentich also revealed she received a call from an unidentified man in Russia shortly after her son's disappearance who said he would visit them but the phone call was cut off mid-conversation.

Her dying husband had expressed a belief that Frederick Valentich may not have been killed.

"I don't think I'll see him where I am going," Mr Valentich told his wife shortly before he died.

More than 50 people reported seeing bright lights in the Cape Otway region on the night 20-year-old Valentich disappeared en route to King Island.

But the latest information comes from a man and his two nieces who are believed to be the last to see the Cessna.

They support the description of a green light hovering above the plane as detailed by Valentich to Tullamarine airport radio controller Steve Robey.

"They saw both the lights of a small aircraft and a very large green light travelling directly above it," said Paul Norman, of the Victorian UFO Research Society, after interviewing the trio.

Mr Norman said the Apollo Bay man, aged 47 at the time, had initially told his wife but she didn't believe him.

He failed to raise it until now because he feared being ridiculed, Mr Norman said.

"We have tracked it as far as we can without an underwater search," he said.

The society and the Valentich family are appealing for help in mounting the sea search using sonar or video equipment.

They can be contacted on 9506 7080.

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Source: HERALD SUN 11/10/2000 P7

Credit: Paul Cropper

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 12 December 2000

7:00pm – 10:00 pm

THE THREE CRANES

Queen Street,

Sheffield City Centre

THE "MEXBOROUGH FOOTAGE" – UPDATE

YUFOS is pleased to announce that the so-called "Mexborough footage" (see last issue) is presently being analysed by photographic expert Bill Rose.

Since the last issue went to press, researchers and writers Dr. Dave Clarke and Andy Roberts viewed the footage and offered the opinion that the objects could well be birds, but rather than birds of prey as I had suggested, confirmed their initial suspicions that the UFOs could be herons. The time of the sighting, the weather conditions, and the speed and movements of the objects are consistent with these large birds, now common in England.

Hopefully, we will have a complete report from Bill Rose in the next issue.

UFOs- THE KEY TURNING POINT (PART 5)

BY W.H. BOOKER (YUFOS)

Having come back down to Earth so to speak, we have covered a number of subjects; speed (and we know that we are travelling very fast through space, but don't even realise it!). Next we came to 'time' - this we understand never stops, but it does slow down, if we travel near to the speed of light through space. Then there is 'light', this very narrow band of colours that make up our rainbow. Also combined with light is our vision, which can play tricks on us if we are not aware. Our eyes are not capable of seeing everything that is there to be seen, such as a bullet leaving the barrel of a gun, or the 604 lines plus the dots on a TV screen etc. They are all moving too fast for our eyes to register. We've covered sound waves, but we can only detect specific frequencies between 20 cycles and 20,000 cycles. The ultrasonic or subsonic waves our ears cannot detect, but I think could use sound as a form of energy.

Finally there is the puzzle of gravity. We know it effects all forms of matter and some physicists claim that it could involve 'gravitational waves', others say it is a form of particles called 'gravitons'. If either be true, we are still no nearer to controlling it or generating gravity like other forms of energy.

To try and understand a little about static electricity we must know something of the nature of the atom, with it's electrons which rotate around the nucleus or neutrons. If we imagine our Sun as the nucleus, with it's planets being the electrons. Also we have seen telescopic photos of other galaxies, with a very bright centre nucleus and millions of stars rotating round it, all held or kept in position by gravity. This then will give us some idea of the nature and orientation of the electrons round the nucleus, or neutrons of the atom. The lightest atom being hydrogen with a single negative nucleus or neutron and single positive electron revolving round it.

The other elements, the gasses, liquids and solids all have larger equal numbers of neutrons and electrons. Therefore all the individual elements have different weights.

Years ago I copied down a list of all the then known atomic elements, numbering 92, and

their individual atomic weights. But I know that several new elements have since been discovered. The first element - no.1 being the lightest, is hydrogen (H), atomic weight 1. Further down the list is number 13, aluminium (AL) at weight 26. Number 26 is iron (Fe) at weight 56, on to number 82, lead (PB) at weight 207. Then number 92, one of the heaviest elements, is uranium (u) at weight 238.

We mentioned earlier about all the electrons revolving around the nucleus of the atom, this being very similar to planets going around the Sun. We know that planets are moving very fast, but it takes years for some to orbit the Sun. The atom, being very, very small, smaller by millions than a 'full stop', is impossible to see, even with the strongest microscope at this moment in time. Yet we are told that all the electrons around the nucleus of the atom travel at fantastic speed. According to the textbooks, the speeds these electrons revolve can be determined by the temperature, or degree of heat applied to the atom. The higher the temperature, the faster they revolve, the colder they get, then they slow down.

I've often wondered if it would be possible to freeze the flow of electrons, to slow them down almost completely, then pass them through a very strong magnetic field or static electrical field - to 'reverse' the electron flow. What would happen? If we could, then increase the temperature, would the reverse flow act against gravity?

From the textbooks on 'rotational spectrum' - when energy is absorbed by atoms and molecules, it may increase the rotational flow of the molecule as a whole. Conversely, the transition from a state of higher to one of lower rotational energy - corresponds with the loss of energy. Which may be emitted in the form of light, corresponding in frequency, with the energy liberated.

When we use friction on insulators such as glass, hard rubber, plastic, nylon and hard or solid sulphur compounds, electrons from the atoms of these compounds are transferred to the other article, the fur, silk or whatever

medium causes the friction. This leaves the insulation with a positive charge, because it has lost some of its negative charge electrons. The other medium becomes negative charged. This state of affairs means each item will be unbalanced. Therefore the negative atom will soon attract electrons to regain its state of equilibrium again, as will the positive atoms.

This is happening all the time in our atmosphere, millions of times a day. Many, of course go unnoticed, mainly because they contain only small charges. Large charges discharge as lightning. I did suggest earlier that all these static electrical charges build up on the Earth's surface but to the friction of our planet moving very fast through space. But we should ask ourselves why don't these massive charges leak away into space? The main reason is that they are held close to the surface by the Earth's magnetic field.

So now we know that static electricity can be contained in a magnetic field. If we produce our own static electricity and our own magnetic field, we should be able to store these charges in large condensers. How we could utilize this energy could pose another problem. I know we can all learn something from all of this information. Some parts may be complex but they are facts, not fiction or paranormal!

So now if we start to analyse all these subjects in relation to UFOs, we may be able to see a picture starting to emerge from all of these many insignificant little pieces of information.

According to Albert Einstein, space and time are linked, gravity can bend light and travelling at near speed of light, time slows down.

Looking at speed, we know that UFOs travel very fast in our atmosphere, and maybe much faster in outer space, but so do we. We are travelling on the outside surface of the Earth, through space at 548,000 mph, but not in a straight line. We are spinning on our own axis, and at the same time moving around the sun. Our solar system is moving round the edge of the Milky Way.

If we use our imagination and transport ourselves way, way out in space, then look back at the edge of the Milky Way, where our solar system floats gently round the outside of this gigantic galaxy, we would see no movement at all. Not unless you stayed there for a very long time. If you could see the Earth at all it would take a whole year for the Earth

to move around the Sun. So I believe that space, time, and speed are linked together.

It so happens that we do not know what exists on the other side of the Milky Way, because there are millions and millions of stars clustered near the centre and we are unable to see through to the other side. Some of these stars are hundreds of times larger than our own Sun. They are floating around like a gigantic whirlpool of soup with even smaller whirlpools, like our own solar system, on the outside, but kept together on a level keel like an enormous sparkling silver saucer. All these stars held together by gravity.

Speed in a circular motion can generate tremendous forces. It gives us the impression there is an increase in gravitational pull but outwards towards the outer limits of the circular motion, (like a fast-moving fairground ride) if you were on the outside edge.

So if we are travelling at 600/700mph on the outside of our planet, moving in a circular motion, why are we still attached to the surface, and not flung off into space, overcoming the force of gravity?

Earlier we mentioned the effects of static electricity and the influence of the Moon and planets, including the Sun have on tides, earthquakes, and volcanoes on our little planet.

So when the Sun, Moon and other large planets; Jupiter, Saturn etc are in a line, there must be considerable gravitational pull on the Earth's surface. Why is it that we are unable to detect these changes? If we could, countless lives could be saved. As we know, we can detect the Earth's magnetic field with a compass. Would it be possible to construct a very sensitive piece of equipment to detect the very minute variations in gravity?

The very high voltages that build up in our atmosphere caused by friction, and possibly due to the speed we are moving through space, cannot be measured. But we know the considerable power generated, due to the destruction caused by lightning.

It is my opinion that the force of gravity could be a combination of the Earth's magnetic field, plus static electrical forces.

(Continued next issue)

FROM AROUND THE WORLD...AND BEYOND!!!

UFOs, conspiracies, forteen and paranormal events compiled by Dave Baker

HUNTERS ENCOUNTER HUGE UFO

(Sally Sturrock, October 17, 2000)

From Skywatch International and the National UFO Reporting Centre comes a detailed report of a party of hunters who witnessed a huge UFO overhead while camped in the middle of the night in Idaho.

The encounter occurred on Sept. 27 in central Idaho. The four hunters have visited the region annually for more than 20 years each fall, and had been hunting in the area for about a week last month. But on this night, they experienced something quite different than game species and familiar terrain.

One of the men went to get food from a storage chest in the rear of his pick-up truck at about 9:45 p.m., and that's where the story begins, recounted by NUFORC.

"As he approached his vehicle, he seemed to sense that something didn't seem quite right, like a thick blanket suspended overhead," he said. "However, it was not until a few seconds later that he realized just how correct his senses were. As he stepped up on the rear tire of his truck to reach into the bed, his flashlight swept across the clear night sky above him, illuminating something very large, and directly overhead. He immediately glanced up, and was so startled by what he saw that he fell to his knees from shock. He was looking at the bottom of a huge, silent, unlighted triangular-shaped object, that was sitting motionless in the sky directly above the campground."

"His initial impression was that the object was at least the size of a football field, hundreds of feet on a side. It had rounded corners, and its skin, where his flashlight had swept over one corner of the bizarre object, exhibited distinct texture. It was so large that it seemed to blot out the sky above him," says NUFORC.

"The witness, 43-years of age, started yelling almost hysterically for the others to come outside immediately. The men in the camper were so alarmed by tone in their friend's voice that they rushed for the camper door, expecting to see a bear attacking their mules, or some

'normal' event taking place outside. They were not prepared for what they saw. Fortunately, two of them were able to get outside in time to witness the object overhead slowly and silently begin to move away from their campground toward a nearby mountain. Even before they had managed to get out the door, however, the object had begun to generate a distinct whining sound, at which time lights suddenly appeared on the ventral surface. A large, round, subdued, white light was now plainly visible in each of the three corners of the triangle, and a prominent red, strobing light was visible in the middle of the ventral surface," says NUFORC.

Two of the hunters had time to get their binoculars in time to observe the retreating object for about 60 seconds. "As if the event were not stunning enough already by this time, the object proceeded to ascend and manoeuvre up a narrow canyon in the side of the nearby mountain. They described its motion through the sky as being 'like a hockey puck gliding over ice,'--very smooth and unwavering," says NUFORC.

One of the hunters, a private pilot, told NUFORC that the object was "not moving through the atmosphere the way an aerodynamic body would."

The group was stunned by their sighting, said NUFORC, and after discussing the encounter, two of them spent the night in a motel three hours away. "One of the two, the first to witness the object, spent a very uncomfortable night, lying awake and thinking about the object he had witnessed hours earlier. He felt keenly on edge, and startled dramatically on one occasion, for example, when the electric heater in their room suddenly came on," said NUFORC.

The next morning, they contacted local government offices and NUFORC to report the incident, including the coordinates of their sighting, before returning to the hunting camp. "Interestingly, the two men who remained at the camp witnessed military jet fighters fly down the valley the object had flown up the night before, and pass directly over their camp.

They reported that the jets were rocking their wings dramatically as they descended down the valley toward their camp," said NUFORC, which is investigating the hunters' encounter further.

FIREBALL IGNITES SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY

(BBC News Online science editor Dr David Whitehouse)

Scientists have revealed new data about a meteorite that could be one of the most primitive Solar System objects yet studied.

The space rock was recovered from the frozen Tagish Lake in Canada. The meteorite has aroused huge excitement among researchers because its fragments could help us understand better how the planets were formed.

The rock fell to Earth on 18 January, 2000. The exceptionally long and bright fireball was seen throughout the Yukon, Northern British Columbia, parts of Alaska, and the Northwest Territories.

Several dozen pieces of it have been retrieved. Importantly, the pieces were picked up still frozen, providing researchers with a unique opportunity to study organic compounds that may even have been the building blocks of life on Earth.

The Tagish Lake meteorite is a so-called carbonaceous chondrite, a rare type of ancient meteorite that makes up only 2% of all meteorite finds. Unlike most rock found in the Solar System, it has not been changed by major heating sometime in its history and as such allows researchers a chance to study the very stuff that came together to form the Sun and the planets.

Analysis of the Tagish Lake meteorite, reported in the journal *Science* by Peter G Brown at the University of Western Ontario, Canada, and colleagues, suggests the rock may represent a completely new class of carbonaceous chondrite, more primitive than any yet found.

Using eyewitness accounts, photographs, videos, and satellite data of the rock's fiery and dramatic entrance into the Earth's atmosphere, the researchers have also calculated where the meteorite came from.

Its trajectory indicates that the space rock originated from the middle of the asteroid belt which lies between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter (about 300 million to 600 million kilometres/186 million to 370 million miles from the Sun).

Analysis of the carbon in Tagish Lake indicates that some of it is in the form of so-called nanodiamonds, tiny particles of interstellar material that were in the solar nebula, the cloud of gas and dust that came together to form the Solar System. Tagish Lake may be richer in interstellar grains than any meteorite studied before.

Jeffrey Grossmann of the US Geological Survey says that Tagish Lake is the most significant meteorite to come into the hands of scientists since the well-known Allende meteorite from Mexico and the Murchison meteorite from Australia, both of which were picked up in 1969.

Alan Hildebrand of the University of Calgary, Canada, says that the best indication of the significance of the Tagish Lake recovery can be seen in the receipt of dozens of requests from meteorite researchers around the world to study the new rock.

One fragment is already in the hands of British researchers at the Natural History Museum in London.

One very interesting aspect of the Tagish Lake study is the compilation of detailed eyewitness accounts of the fireball. Many people noticed smells at the time of the rock fall. These were frequently described as sulphurous, although hot metal and rock were also mentioned. And these smells were picked up by people many tens of kilometres from the drop zone.

About one in 10 also reported sound instantaneous to the fireball event. It might seem impossible that a noise can be heard concurrent with an object moving at speed many kilometres away, but scientists now believe this to be what they term an electrophonic effect.

It is possible that the twisting wake of a fireball might trap a magnetic field, creating very long radio waves that travel to the ground at the speed of light. The waves then interact with almost any object to produce a sound audible to the sky watcher.

RESIDENTS SHOCKED AT SEING TWO UFO

The residents of Taman Cheras Utama shocked when they saw 2 revolving objects in the sky while emitting bright light for half an hour, earlier last morning.

A group of 10 Muslim Haj just finished their morning prayer in the An-Noor mosque near the residents playground area when they saw a oval shape object which looks like a UFO revolving in space at 5.4 to 6.15AM last morning.

The head of photo unit department for Berita Harian news, Mr Norazmi Mohd Noor who is with the group of Muslim Haj feel surprise at the UFO which is emitting a white light circulating the cloud and move to left and right.

Anyway, he didn't have a chance to record the event photographically because the camera is not with him at that moment.

He said, "I saw 2 light spot moving to left and right for about one kilometre and I believe that light is not from laser or torch light."

Imam for An-Noor mosque, Mr Mufaat Fuad Mus, 55, Who is also a witness the same object believe that it was a sign from Allah.

"We are not sure what is the object in the air but its a sure sign of the greatness of Allah", he said.

The object is likened to a moving grey cloud.

"I am thankful for this sign and I immediately read the Al-Quran once I got home", he said

At first, he didn't see that object while stepping out from the mosque, but when Norazmi asked him to look at the sky, he was so surprise.

"All my life, this is the first incident that I saw a UFO flying in the sky. Anyway, the object vanished at 6.30 AM."

"I am feeling strange and suspect that the object is a flying saucer ", said the employee of the Technical Teaching Institute.

It has always been observed that when a given area is "bedevilled" by paranormal phenomena (UFOs, strange creatures, etc.) a number of additional strange events can be expected to happen (poltergeist events, spontaneous fires, Marian apparitions, etc.), as if the presence of a single strange event is sufficient to cause an instability that allows other unnatural events to take place.

This would certainly appear to be the case in the Chilean city of Iquique, which was in the news only a few days ago for Chupacabras-related reasons...

Scott Corrales

Institute of Hispanic Ufology (IHU)

SPONTANEOUS FIRES IN IQUIQUE

(Narciso Donoso El Mercurio Sunday, October 8, 2000)

IQUIQUE- The technical section of the Fire Department is looking into a series of seven combustions recorded in different days and times within a building on Avenida Arturo Prat 480, where the offices of the Wackenhut security agency are located.

Extraofficial sources attribute these events to paranormal phenomena, since occupants have spoken of pictures and certificates falling from the walls for no apparent reason.

The seventh fire in less than a week took place in the "haunted house". The firemen who put out the flames claim having seen clocks and pictures fly through the air while at the same time hearing cries, lamentations and the sound of chains.

The house, haunted and possessed by disruptive spirits, has residents of Cavancha Beach and the Fire Depart in a state of alert. Volunteer fire-fighters are at a loss to explain the seven spontaneous fires which they have had to extinguish in the past several days. The strange paranormal phenomena are taking place in an old wooden house located in front of Cavancha Beach; within the structure--which until last Sunday served as the headquarters for a security company--can be heard the sound of chains, shattering lamentations along with the unexplained fires.

The most harrowing situation occurred last Friday, just before President Ricardo Lagos and Iquique Mayor Jorge "Choro" Soria toured Cavancha Park, located some 500 meters from the "haunted house": a tremendous fire broke out at the location, which caused the mobilization of several fire departments. The fire crews were hard pressed to extinguish the tongues of flame, above all because the flames appeared to emerge out of nowhere.

While the fire was being put out, several department functionaries and company workers claimed having seen plates, pictures and clocks fly from one end to another of the main hall. Some volunteers also claim having heard the sound of children screaming, babies crying, and the clinking of chains. Decorations which had been nailed to the wall also fell to the ground.

What is truly spooky is that fire-fighters were forced to return to fight several outbreaks of fire in the same residence that very day. Experts of the Fire Department's technical team were unable to find a logical explanation to justify the source of the fires.

"What most attracted our attention on Friday was that a wall clock fell down and wound up some two meters away. Desks and other furniture also moved around. It was terrible," said one of the volunteers.

The superintendent of the Iquique Fire Department, Federico Petrillo, reported that the specialized volunteers are engaging in a detailed investigation into the strange cause of the fires. He also claimed to have seen with his own eyes how chairs, tables and desks moved around on their own.

A Cavancha-based mentalist explained, meanwhile, that a century ago, on the very same block where the "haunted house" is located, there lived an elderly sorcerer gifted with incredible healing powers.

A POSSIBLE PLANET FREE-FLOATING IN ORION (*BBC News Online science editor Dr David Whitehouse*)

Astronomers have discovered 18 planet-like objects, drifting through space in a part of the constellation of Orion. If they are planets, these "free floaters" will pose a challenge to theories about how planets form.

Planets are thought to arise as gas and dust in the disc swirling around a young star condenses and clumps together. But the newly-discovered objects seem to have a different origin and evolution. They lack a central star and they form part of a star cluster called Sigma Orionis, which is no more than five million years old.

"The formation of young, free-floating, planetary-mass objects like these are difficult to explain by our current models of how planets form," said Maria Rosa Zapatero Osorio, of the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, in Tenerife, Spain.

The researchers chose the Sigma Orionis star cluster for their planet hunt because it is nearby, young, and largely free of dust and gas clouds that might obstruct the view. Using visible and infrared light-detecting sensors on telescopes in Spain, the Canary Islands, and Hawaii, they found 18 objects whose relatively dim, reddish light suggested they could be planetary.

The team used measurements from spectrographs on the Keck telescopes in Hawaii to study the range, or spectrum, of energy emitted by three of their candidates. This confirmed the new objects were cool with planet-like temperatures.

"The spectrographic results corresponded to our expectations that these were young giant planets," said Zapatero Osorio.

The researchers say that their estimates of the masses of the objects are well within the range for planets.

Sigma Orionis is probably five million years old, so if the objects are equally old, they are probably 8-15 Jupiter masses in size. If they are only one million years old then the fainter ones could be as small as five Jupiter masses.

It is still a possibility that the scientists have found unusually small, cool, brown dwarf stars. But the astronomers say that judging from previous sky surveys, to find 18 brown dwarfs concentrated in such a relatively small area would be unlikely.

"The most intriguing question now is how can we explain the formation and evolution of planetary-mass objects outside the Solar System?" said Zapatero Osorio.

RECENT UFO REPORTS

The following are UFO reports received by YUFOS just prior to this month's issue going to press. None have been investigated in any depth as yet, but they should give readers an idea of the kind of thing we deal with here at YUFOS towers...the 'bare bones' of a case

ROTHERHAM 'LIGHT'

The following case is interesting because it features two independent witnesses to what appears to be the same or very similar 'UFO'. I originally heard of this from YUFOS member Jonathan Slater, whose sister had witnessed a 'bright white globe' over the St.Marks area of Lincoln at around 7:15 pm on the 5th October, along around 30 to 40 other shoppers.

The object was moving at high speed then stopped still and then vanished. The whole experience lasted less than 1 minute.

YUFOS is presently awaiting the return of a detailed sightings report form and interview from Jon and his sister.

The very same day that I heard of this case, a report was posted to the Internet discussion group ufologyuk. The report sounded very similar and had apparently occurred less than 30 minutes previously over Rotherham.

The basis of the original post is as follows:

"On the 5th of October at around 6.50-6.55pm my family were just setting down to watch a little TV whilst I was busy on the PC upstairs.

"My wife called to me to 'look at this outside'.

"When I got down stairs my 9 year old son asked 'Is it a star dad? '.

"The object was clearly not a star, the sky was practically clear of any stars, and the sky was relatively still blue and clear. In a westerly direction - just above the horizon, was a very bright yellowish object that appeared to be hovering some miles away in the distance. The object seemed to be over the Rotherham/Sheffield area (or maybe just a little east of there).

"After watching this object (that at the time appeared to be hovering) it was noted that it was moving very, very slowly upward. It was at this time that I got hold of the camcorder and started to film the object.

"The object then appeared to move east and at the same time started to go downwards.

"Also I could see commercial aircraft (or maybe helicopters or whatever,) in my lens in the camcorder - these had no lights on them and appeared to be very close to the object... at the same time it was noted that the aircraft did not give any reflection (discounting any suggestion that it was a helicopter giving off a reflection off the sun or whatever).

"The object soon disappeared below my site of vision on the horizon and so I stopped filming.

"About 10 minutes later my wife said 'Its back!' - looking out of the window it could be clearly seen moving upward at a much faster speed this time, we watched it as it went really high in the twilight, still shining very brightly, then all of a sudden the light went out and a grey object could be seen for a split second... then it disappeared completely."

I contacted the witness, who sent me a frame capture of the video via the Internet. The still frame shows a bright yellowish 'ball' in the sky above trees and houses. Initially, it looks as if it might have been the reflection of sunlight on the body of an aircraft. Of course this is only a still picture, and the movements of the object, if they are as the witness claims, do not appear to be consistent with an aircraft.

Even more, the description could be another case of sunlight reflecting from the body of a bird- (see last issue). The fact that "*suddenly the light went out and a grey object could be seen for a split second*" suggests a pigeon or similar bird. Of course with no idea of the size of the object, this cannot be confirmed, nor ruled out.

The witness had posted the video footage on his personal web-site, but after numerous attempts to download it, I was still unable to open and run the clip.

However, as the case stands at the moment, I am waiting for the witness to send me a copy of the tape to view for myself...

aircraft...if it was further away, then it could have been much, much larger. It did not look at all like an aircraft or balloon."

STRANGE 'TAMBOURINE'-LIKE UFO SIGHTED

YUFOS correspondent and fellow UFOIN member Dr. David Clarke, who had received the report via e-mail, passed on this second case to me.

The witness, John, is a retired school-teacher living at Mansfield, Woodhouse, Notts.

The sighting took place on the morning of Tuesday, 9th November 1999, at 9:15 am.

The day was clear and sunny, with blue skies bisected with lots of contrails from aircraft. John was looking out of his back door, across his garden to the south. Looking to the west, he saw ;

"...a semi-circular object, fairly low in the sky and moving slowly over the residential area of the city.

"The object did not appear to be spinning. It looked like a tambourine at an angle. The outside of the 'tambourine' was a white ring/ellipse of light, hollow inside, and the 'tambourine' symbols were lights (yellowy white- like car lights)."

John cannot recall how many 'lights' were on the rim of the object.

John blinked a few times, thinking that the object might have been the effect of the sun, but it was still there.

He ran indoors to fetch his camcorder, but even though he was only gone for around twenty seconds, the object had gone.

"There was barely a cloud in the sky, so it couldn't have 'hidden'." John said in his report.

For some time afterwards, John said "My eyes felt 'funny', similar to when I observed the eclipse - like someone had shone a torch into my eyes."

John was particularly impressed with the apparent size of the object.

"If it was only about a mile away, then it looked to be about the size of a large

COMING SOON!

AN INTERVIEW WITH...

TIMOTHY GOOD

BEST SELLING AUTHOR OF

"BEYOND TOP SECRET"

"ALIEN LIASON"

"ALIEN BASE"

and the new best-seller

**"UNEARTHLY
DISCLOSURE"**

The Haunted Realm

Newsletter November 2000

A Ghost story for Halloween

Visitaions

By
Philip John Parkin

Doctor David Paxman was doing specialist research about ergot poisoning in Essex and Norfolk in the early modern period, 1500-1800. For as long as he could remember, this period of British history had been of interest to him, with its mysteries before the gradually revealing Enlightenment, 1687-1789. Ergot, the fungus (*claviceps purpurea*) of course, can effect ripe rye, and ears of grain then get replaced by black growths. He was aware that weather was very much a relevant issue-that cold and wet conditions increased occurrences of ergot poisoning.

Ergot poisoning always could, and still does involve these things: convulsions, a feeling of needles beneath the skin, hallucinations. These symptoms but with demonic intrusions from Satan's realm rather than hallucinations are symptoms of bewitchment. This controversial condition has been said to be the result of someone suffering the harmful spell (*malefiscia*) of a witch. Dr Paxman wanted to determine how likely it was that all cases of bewitchment were caused by ergot poisoning. He went through some diary records from a preacher in Kings Lynn, one Luke Coates, written in the 1660s, building up a framework of 'knowns', and, beyond this, even a learned sense for the most probable full details of history, some of which, where absence of specifics dictates, can only depend upon the imagination of the investigator, judiciously though this must this be applied.

Rain. Heavy rain, and the dark, heavy, portentous clouds which should make the sinful beware! The townsfolk had endured a persistently wet summer. Hearths remained cluttered with the overhanging drying clothes of labourers, and mud was the curse for the washer- women wives.

Harvest time, 1666, fields of rye in Kings Lynn, Norfolk. This morning, in most of the numerous rye fields, the peasant farmers were

harvesting. It was being scythed down, collected, and stored on carts. One of the many peasant farmers on George Townshend, Lord of the Manor's land was Jacob, a stocky man in his early thirties. As well as cutting rye, he occasionally helped to tell two poorly - paid seasonal harvesting helpers what to do. Cutting his strip of the field of rye, he cut it down with a steady, broad-sweeping action, handling the unwieldy scythe with an almost lazy manner.

At last, he lay down his scythe, fetched his knapsack from where he had left it by the edge of the field, and took out a napkin containing wholemeal bread and a boiled egg, and his clay drinking mug. After pausing to gulp down some water from the bucket by the field's edge, he slowly began to eat his lunch, as some of the other workers were now also doing. Then, returning his knapsack and things and picking up his scythe, he prepared to restart his work. A lot later, when the light had faded quite badly, the seasonal workers already dismissed, he headed home, other peasant farmers going in their various directions to their homes.

Upon arriving at his home, his loving wife, Ellen smiled at him and said 'Table set, Jacob', and they sat down to eat. The simple but welcome fare of bread, carrot soup, cheese, with fresh well water. Few words were spoken, but those that were seemed heavy, laden with meaning. Jacob's tender heart perhaps seemed almost suprising in view of the breadth and width of his shoulders and the gruff, abrupt manner of his voice and speech.

It was Saturday night- the Sabbath tomorrow. They sat down by the fire for a while. Later, when rising slowly from his seat, his wife, who of course knew him very well, sprang towards him, nimble as a wood-elf. She took his hand and met his insistent eyes, and smiled brightly.

He put his hands around her waist. She moved his hand until it was over a breast and they went to bed. As she smiled broadly, he climbed on top of her.

From all around they came to the Roman Catholic church, taking off their hats, of whatever variety they were, as they entered church with solemnity. These highly religious, superstitious people made their way to their pews. The preacher was that renowned old firebrand, Luke Coates. The preacher warily eyed the assembled congregation, which ranged from the lord of the Manor, his noble personage George Townshend, to the magistrate Mr Tobias Gregson, to the plentiful ranks of the fisher-folk and the farm hands. The townsfolk had scarcely settled when he began his address from the pulpit.

Suddenly leaning forward, he launched into his sermon: 'Does not our sacred text, the bible, tell us that the number of the beast is 666? And does it not say that Satan is a roaring lion searching for souls to devour?' A faint murmuring-a whispering of prayers passed around in the congregation. 'And what pestilence will god visit upon the sinful!', he boomed. More wave-like murmuring of prayers in the congregation. 'God is looking, God is listening. And what of Satan's infernal flaming pit? This I verily say unto you: no man that walk on this earth shall escape God's wrath should he sin! And yea', he continued, his voice getting still louder, 'the sins of the lusts of the flesh, the sins of adultery, the multifarious sins of the ungodly shall all and without exception lay revealed on the day of judgement!'

To the east of Kings Lynn, there came to be a bull surely possessed of the devil. The enlightening, though sometimes cloud-obscured sun cast its rays, shadows being under the windswept trees. Convulsions grossly contorted its body. The sometimes aimless, restless bull seemed to need to attack demons. Below the trees, black shadows threatened to encircle it, growing thicker, building up out of the ether, till they enclosed the beast's head. It clearly felt threatened. It wanted escape from its atrocious, obscure tormentor. Its attempts to do so were numerous and greatly distressing to watch. At length, as it struggled, it went away from the small trees and bushes of the west side of the paddock.

Without hesitation, it attacked the great oak tree to the east side of the paddock,

both its head and its horns broken and twisted by the amazing force of the impact. It fell to the ground to die, yet even now it remained plagued and struggling.

Witches here! Witches were believed in by local people, whatever their station in life. What other cause could so blight Kings Lynn? The Lord of the Manor, George Townshend, the magistrate Mr Tobias Gregson, the Reverend Luke Coates and the townsfolk worried about what had happened to the bull that had surely been bewitched. They so wanted shut of what was blighting their town they wanted to rip it out branch and root, that for the sake of the Lord, in the year of the Lord 1666, they should no longer bear the pain of such hideous visitations.

The full moon was above Alice's home, an ominous, strange silence outside. The wind occasionally blew a cloud before the moon, creating patterns of light on the roof. Alice, ill in bed, and drenched with sweat, writhed violently with convulsions, her whole body bent double. Arms moving rapidly, agitation, why? She saw visions. The table near the fire now. The table near the door now. How? Why? Babbling and screeching: 'The the caba the aah! Jaah! Caba the the par!' Strange objects appeared. All wobbling about. Everything. No. Like the feeling just before you throw up and be sick. Intrusive, unwelcome emotions spreading through the ether- emotions like those given off by some malevolent serpent of the deep knowing it has stumbled upon a kill. Darkness arriving. Moving to avoid. Air getting thicker. Ugly witch again, on the bed, trying to pin her down. Leave! Leave! she thought.

Grabbing at her, insistent, beating her, nails clawing at her, reaching under her skin. Still there, must have set insects against her to crawl beneath her skin, to hurt her. Torment. Mark Harvey, Witchfinder General was dispatched from Norwich by agreement with the Lord of the Manor of Norwich and local magistrates. Small and stocky, he wore a wide-brimmed black hat and his presence here both terrified and reassured residents. Everyone knew when he was around. His vast aura was one of steadfast determination, a great, unflinching rigidity of attitude untempered by light emotions, his stern grimace sending out fear. And yet there was love in his heart for the common people, the common people he had been assigned to protect.

Ruth, her husband dead, now lived with her brother John and his wife Nellie. John was a practicer of the spagyric (alchemical) arts, a follower of the legendary Hermes Tricemegistus, a true adept. John, as other alchemists before him, sought a universal elixir for human life. Ruth, dropping leaves and mixing a strange potion in a great cauldron over a blazing fire under the light of the stars had been seen in the garden by the magistrates daughter, Jane, one evening. This happened because Jane and her husband passed slowly by the house that evening on horseback. Of course, Jane promptly informed her father, the pious Mr Tobias Gregson, of her observations. Thus apprised, he himself and a promptly accumulated selection of comrades set off for the house where Ruth lived. Before daybreak next day: the knock on the door and the instant entry- she was taken directly to the Kings Lynn jailhouse, jailed and she awaited the forthcoming trial. She did not have long to wait, for that very day she attended a trial, was found guilty, and jailed once more. Thus indisposed, she awaited her assigned fate.

Under the direction of the Witchfinder General, Mark Harvey, a collection of local menfolk cut down a branch of a great beech tree, trimmed it, and drove it deeply into the ground. Around it, were fastidiously assembled smaller branches. Ruth was bound to the stake by heavy twine and the wood was set to the torch. Amazingly loud screams, presently, then a subdued murmuring. And no one sympathised with the pitiful wails of the damned. Soon she fell silent, the auditory focus of peoples' attention now becoming the crackling of the fierce fire. Just a week later, Nellie suffered the same fate.

All seemed well in Kings Lynn in Autumn 1667. This year's rye harvest had been so good that even the miller's second barn was well stocked with sacks of milled rye. There being no prospect of a shortage, the remaining sacks of last year's rye had not been held back, should the crops yield a poor harvest. Last year's grain had all been used up.

Kings Lynn: winter, 1667: a bright, clear day, again. Indeed, the weather had been much drier this last four seasons past than those which had preceded them. No more bewitchment here in 1667, a year after the bull surely possessed of the devil had suffered and died in agony. The fastidious reverend Luke

Coates had exorcised Alice's demons, with his weekly crossings with holy water on her forehead, and she had, at length, completely recovered.

Doctor Paxman, through mental exertion, roused his consciousness of the whole historical affair from the confines of Kings Lynn, Norfolk. A different parish to Kings Lynn, one in Essex unsuitable for growing rye, had, one could clearly judge from the 1666 diary of one Reverend Ebenezer Sykes, not a few cases of what the reverend Sykes referred to as 'bewitchment' or 'demonic visitation upon an earthly soul'. Also, local jail records, had had not a few cases of witches being included as inmates, almost certainly to end up tried and then burned at the stake so they could not relive in their (destroyed) physical bodies at the time of the life ever-after. Here, wheat, the main crop of the area, grown locally would certainly have been used for making the bread here and trade was understandably not at all likely, given usual parish customs and the very poor state of the roads.

Doctor Paxman found this entry for December 5, 1666: 'All five cases of bewitchment in this our own dear parish of Stonehampton now cured by repeated administrations of holy water and the robust prayers of our kinsmen. Praise be to God on high. Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, Amen. God willing, Lord, you will likewise save our souls some future day should upon our land fall again the curse of malevolent visitations.

Glory be to God, our father who art in heaven, Amen'. I'm puzzled, thought Doctor Paxman, thinking again of the seventeenth century history of both Kings Lynn and Norfolk and Stonehampton and Essex. Perhaps if I go through things again in my head, the most correct picture of historical reality will become clear, he thought.

However, these things for the time being he concluded: (i) terrible it is when terrible things happen to a society, but terrible too is it should any innocent person be used as a scapegoat for social ills, however bad those ills may be; (ii) The Enlightenment, 1687-1789 has improved the general fortunes of society and has also caused less people to be used as a scapegoat for social ills.

Haunted Roads on the Isle Of Man

By

John Hall

(This is a collection of folklore related tales)

The Phantom Death Coach

The death coach is a traditional sort of haunting travelling to and from selected locations on certain roads with its grisly cargo of souls which it collects en route with the grim reaper in situ. A clichéd but well-known phenomenon countrywide. The horse drawn coach with a headless driver and black steeds racing at breakneck speed on wild stormy nights along mountain roads to a point where it will vanish by crashing or tumbling over a ravine.

Permutations on the story are coloured by local factors, (keeping in mind the smugglers routes!). The death coach was seen and heard regularly coming down the mountain road towards Dalby from the direction of south Barrule mountain crossroads. It was deemed unfortunate to see or meet it as no doubt it signalled that you, or someone you knew, would have an early demise.

Described by two women sitting on the grass by the roadside one summer night- "it was something like a funeral coach with waving plumes with a moving body of blackness waving along behind it, like a lot of people at a funeral. The whole image was perhaps wavering and hardly distinguishable from the dimness of the night".

On route it would have passed several other haunted locations which will be described next.

The image of the Death coach was in some ways similar to the black cloud/mist I described at Longendale valley in England and other parts of the islands haunted roads. There are also similarities to the more recent sightings by paranormal investigators at Borley church yard in Suffolk. It may also be the shape-shifting agency responsible for many of the hauntings along the whole stretch of road to Glenmaye and Peel. A section of the upper road called Mountain Pillars in former times, (because it was all that remained of a house that once stood in that location) had its own ghost story to tell.

(To be continued)

Spooked mum claims council house is haunted

A young mum is urging her local council to move her - because she swears her house is haunted.

Sarah Williams, 26, says her eight-year-old daughter Lyndsey is having nightmares after a series of spooky incidents witnessed by both of them.

Despite calling in a vicar to try to cleanse the house in Mansfield, Notts, of evil spirits, the problem is persisting and she has now put in a request to move house.

A Mansfield District Council spokesman said it was the most bizarre request ever received. Sarah said her family moved into the three-bedroomed semi-detached house in December last year, after first spending two months decorating and fitting carpets. They were delighted with the house and happy to live there, but they started experiencing problems six weeks ago.

Sarah said: 'My daughter was in the spare bedroom one evening and let out a huge scream. I ran in to find her hysterical, saying she had seen a ghost - a man, dressed in black. 'Since then, we have had things fall off shelves, had switches turned off on their own and washing thrown around the bathroom.' Sarah says her daughter is being badly affected.

She said: 'Lyndsey is normally very happy, but at the moment she doesn't sleep well and thinks she is being followed all the time.' Officers from the housing department at Mansfield are due to meet Miss Williams this week to discuss her complaint. Kelly Scott, the council's housing general manager, said: 'This is a very unusual case, and it's certainly the first of its kind that we have ever had to deal with - there is no precedent for this.'

The Haunted Realm Website

<http://boggards2.friendpages.com>

Yorkshire UFO Society Website

www.yufos.ic24.net

Contributions By: Philip John Parkin , John Hall, Lincoln echo website.

Published by: Badger Publications

Editor Jonathan Slater